

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) An *in vitro* method for screening modulators of NOS2 activity, the method comprising the steps of:
 - (i) providing p53 mutant cells that express NOS2;
 - (ii) contacting the cells with compounds suspected of having the ability to modulate NOS2 activity; and
 - (iii) detecting the level of NOS2 expression.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the p53 mutant cells express recombinant NOS2.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the p53 mutant cells produce about 2-15 nmole of nitrate plus nitrite per day.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the p53 mutant cells express NOS2 having an activity from about 3 to about 25 pmole/min/mg.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the p53 mutant cells are human carcinoma cells.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the p53 mutant cells are selected from the group consisting of HT-29 cells, Calu-6 lung cells, and THLE-5B cells.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the p53 mutant cells have a p53 null mutation, a p53 missense mutation, or a functionally inactive p53 protein complexed with SV40 large T antigen.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the level of NOS2 expression is detected by determining the level of cGMP by ELISA or RIA.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the level of NOS2 expression is detected by determining VEGF RNA or protein levels.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the level of NOS2 expression is determined by nitrate plus nitrite production using a colorimetric assay.

11-22. (Canceled)